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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, January 18, 2008, at 10 a.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2008

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, if and when Members of Congress are ever broken-hearted or frustrated in their efforts to do Your will or accomplish good purpose for Your people, let them recall the words of Isaiah: "Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them around the Earth and spread across the Earth crops and resources. It is I, the Lord, who have called you for the victory of justice. I have grasped you by the hand. I have formed you and set you as a covenant of the people and a light for the nations."

Open, Lord, their eyes that they may have a vision filled with hope and promise. Bring them out of their prison of emptiness and from the dizziness of their darkness. Glorify Your name in them and through them again and again, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

A NEW VISION FOR INVESTING IN AMERICA

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, there's a certain irony: As the country is slipping towards recession, the Bush administration is backing away from its own study on infrastructure finance. The answer is simple. It's not a gimmick. Think of the subprime mess that got us into this situation in the first place. The solution is more money to invest. There are examples of where money may be available. For example, the carbon-constrained economy that we are moving into will create a great deal of value, some of which could be captured to help pay for infrastructure.

It is critical, however, that we have a new vision of cleaning up the environment, rebuilding America, and making it more energy efficient, because people are not, nor should they put a lot of money into yesterday's plan. A new vision for investing in America in this century is a key, not just to fighting this temporary recession but making our communities more livable and making our families safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBER MCDANIEL

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish a fond farewell to a member of the Second Congressional District staff, Amber McDaniel. A member of our team from the very beginning, Amber served as deputy campaign manager during my 2001 run for Congress, as a field representative and as our office manager. She will be joining Emerging Markets Private Equity Association as their executive assistant.

Amber's hard work and dedication have earned her a reputation as someone that is willing to always go that extra mile to get the job done. I have had the privilege of getting to know Amber as someone of immense personal and professional integrity, as well as a dear friend. Her service will be missed.

As a 4-year letterman graduate of the University of South Carolina, Amber is the daughter of Pete and Andi Riddell of Westerville, Ohio, and sister of Andrew Riddell and Richard Fleeman. We are all tremendously proud of Amber and wish her the best in the years to come.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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